## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1-8.     (Canceled)

9.     (Currently amended) A method for providing a database utilizing a computer which includes a browser, the method comprising:

(a)     authenticating a user via the browser by a user interface (UI) application;

(b)     providing commands from a web server <u>over a public network</u> to the browser for displaying a screen;

(c)     providing commands from the browser to the web server based upon user interaction with the screen, the commands from the browser including database commands;

(d)     extracting and sending the database commands by the UI application to the database <u>over the public network,</u> the database providing a response thereto;

(e)     combining the response with control commands by the UI application;

(f)     sending the combined response and control commands through the web server to the browser for display<u>, wherein the database is accessed over the public network by the browser without downloading database software</u>; and

(g)     controlling usage of the database based on an agreed-upon schedule and price.

10.    (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the commands are provided in

hypertext markup language (HTML) code.

11.    (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the database commands are

~~SQL~~ structured query language (SQL) statements.

12.    (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the screen is a window to enter

database commands.

13.    (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the UI application is executed as a web

application platform.

14.    (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the authentication step (a)

comprises the steps of:

(a1)    opening a ~~URL~~ uniform resource locator (URL) in the browser;

(a2)    sending the URL to the web server;

(a3)    sending a request to the UI application based upon the URL;

(a4)    producing the HTML code for login and providing the HTML code to the

browser;

(a5)    providing ~~ID~~ identification (ID)/password in the HTML code based upon

user interaction by the browser;

(a6)    extracting ID/password from the HTML code by UI application; and

(a7)    determining if ID/password is authentic.

15.    (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication step (a) further

comprises the steps of:

(a8)    opening a session if the ID/password is authentic.

16.    (Currently amended) A computer readable medium containing program

instructions for providing a database utilizing a computer which includes a browser, the program

instructions for:

(a)    authenticating a user via the browser by a user interface (UI) application;

(b)    providing commands from a web server <u>over a public network</u> to the

browser for displaying a screen;

(c)    providing commands from the browser to the web server based upon user

interaction with the screen, the commands from the browser including database commands;

(d)    extracting and sending the database commands by the UI application to the

database <u>over the public network</u>, the database providing a response thereto;

(e)    combining the response with control commands by the UI application;

(f)    sending the combined response and control commands through the web

server to the browser for display<u>, wherein the database is accessed over the public</u>

<u>network by the browser without downloading database software</u>; and

(g)    controlling usage of the database based on an agreed-upon schedule and

price.

17.     (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the commands from a web server, the commands from the browser, and the control commands are provided in hypertext markup language (HTML) code.

18.     (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the database commands are ~~SQL~~ structured query language (SQL) statements.

19.     (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the screen is a window to enter database commands.

20.     (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the UI application is executed as a web application platform.

21.     (Currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 20 wherein the authentication instruction (a) comprises the instructions for:

(a1)     opening a ~~URL~~ uniform resource locator (URL) in the browser;

(a2)     sending the URL to the web server;

(a3)     sending a request to the UI application based upon the URL;

(a4)     producing the HTML code for login and providing the HTML code to the browser;

(a5)   providing ~~ID~~ identification (ID)/password in the HTML code based upon user interaction by the browser;

(a6)   extracting ID/password from the HTML code by UI application; and

(a7)   determining if ID/password is authentic.

22.   (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 21 wherein the authentication instruction (a) further comprises the instruction for:

(a8)   opening a session if the ID/password is authentic.

23-26.  (Canceled)

27.   (Currently amended) A database service comprising:

a presentation layer, the presentation layer including a browser, a web server coupled to ~~the~~ a public network and a web application platform coupled to the web server;

an application layer comprising a user interface ~~UI~~ (UI) application, the UI application is executed on the web application platform and is capable of communicating with the browser through hypertext markup language (HTML) code; and

a database management layer, the database management layer comprising at least one database which communicates with the UI application over the public network; and at least one back up database coupled to the at least one database, wherein the UI application extracts database commands from the web server and presents the database commands to the database and combines database commands with control commands from the database and provides the

HTML code to the server, <u>wherein the database is accessed over the public network by the</u>
<u>browser without downloading database software,</u> and wherein usage of the database is based on
an agreed-upon schedule and price.

28-43. (Canceled)

44.    (New) The method of claim 9 wherein the usage of the database is controlled
based on mutually agreed-upon criteria between a provider of the database and the user.

45.    (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the mutually agreed-upon criteria is cost-
based.

46.    (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the mutually agreed upon criteria is time-
based.

47.    (New) The computer readable medium of claim 16 wherein the usage of the
database is controlled based on mutually agreed-upon criteria between a provider of the database
and the user.

48.    (New) The computer readable medium of claim 47 wherein the mutually agreed-
upon criteria is cost-based.

49.    (New) The computer readable medium of claim 47 wherein the mutually agreed upon criteria is time-based.

50.    (New) The database service of claim 27 wherein the usage of the database is controlled based on mutually agreed-upon criteria between a provider of the database and the user.

51.    (New) The database service of claim 50 wherein the mutually agreed-upon criteria is cost-based.

52.    (New) The database service of claim 50 wherein the mutually agreed upon criteria is time-based.